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satisfaction to the powers, and to promise to prevent friction in the future. The imminence of war between Russia and Japan continues to be uttered, but there does not seem at this time to be any real ground for believing that actual conflict is near or even probable.

CONTINUED GROWTH OF ARMAMENTS.

The hold which the war system and its spirit still have on mankind is evidenced in no way more clearly than by the continued rivalry of armaments among the powers. While some have been unable to increase their equipments materially, because the limit of financial endurance has been practically reached, in the case of others, wherever it has been possible to add a regiment or a warship, this has been done, with entire disregard of the true interests of the people and the ultimate effect on the national life and policy. Naval rivalry is in particular the order of the day. Our own government is now fully launched on this dangerous sea, and more and bigger and costlier warships are constantly demanded. When all this is to cease and how, it is impossible to predict. That it ought to cease at once is the settled conviction of all those who conceive the forces of civilization to be something other than the power to crush and to carry out one's wishes at the point of the bayonet and the mouth of the cannon.

OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE.

Looking at the whole situation to-day, there is great room for encouragement. Vastly more people are conscientiously and actively opposed to war than ever before. The peace movement is thoroughly organized and conscious of strength in the righteousness and reasonableness of its demands. Arbitration in practice has virtually taken the field of international differences. A Permanent International Court exists and is coming into operation. The nations not yet in the tribunal are "flowing unto it." All parts of the world are getting close to one another and their interests woven together in one endless and seamless network. Diplomacy is becoming increasingly humane and pacific. Economic and commercial interests are in the main arraying themselves silently and powerfully on the side of peace. Labor is loud in its condemnation of war and burdensome armaments. Women in all lands by millions are in arms against a system which breaks up their homes and slaughters or brutalizes their husbands and sons. The light of the coming peace is becoming so great and penetrating that clouds of darkness and blackness, like those which have recently covered the world, will soon be no longer able to reappear. The task that is still before us is an immensely inspiring one, both because of the rightness and glory of the principles and interests involved, and because of the certainty of complete and triumphant success in a time not far away. Let us therefore go to meet the duty next ahead of us with faith and courage, and with unflinching trust in the God of Peace, by whose wisdom and loving hand we have hitherto been guided and blessed.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCES.

In closing our report we desire to record our deep appreciation of the lives and services of those of our Board, our vice-presidents, and of our general membership who have been taken away during the year. Some of these, Rev.

C. B. Smith, Dr. S. Hopkins Emery, *et al.*, had been identified with the cause of peace for more than sixty years, and it is due to them in no small measure — and to such as they — that so much solid progress has been made.

We have had the pleasure during the year of enrolling many new members; more, indeed, than for any twelvemonth within the last ten years.

The treasurer's report shows that, while our income has by close economy and the generosity of our friends only fallen about \$300 below our expenses for the year, our resources are still all too meagre to enable us to do the extended and effective service which might be accomplished with larger funds. We need, in fact, more than double our present income, and we ask all members of the Society everywhere to aid us in greatly enlarging the scope and power of our work by the increase of the means at our disposal.

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Board,
BENJAMIN F. TRUEBLOOD,
Secretary.

YE HAVE MURDERED [ME.

BY MARY E. BRIDGE.

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

The infant Century baptized in blood!
The foremost nation's record blurred with shame!
In yon sad isles, beyond the crimsoned flood,
Brute souls let loose, to guard a people's fame!

Brute souls, alas! Beneath the form He bore
Whose voice, on earth, proclaimed the captive free,
A maddened monster dips our flag in gore,
And flaunts that savage sign o'er land and sea.

"God is not mocked!" Oh, reckless Nation, pause!
Lo, *whatsoever* thou sowest thou shalt reap!
Oh, drunk with blood, awake! The Eternal Laws,—
The Eternal God — for no brief instant sleep.

Behold! the Christ is crucified again
By us, who bear His name! O'er that foul sea
Comes a sad voice: "Was Calvary in vain?
These are My brethren: ye have murdered Me!"

THE SIEGE — A LULLABY.

BY IDA WHIPPLE BENHAM.

The mother bent above her child
With a great fear in her breast;
But to his eyes she softly smiled
As she sang a song of rest;
"And what of the night?" her heart inquired;
(But her lips sang "Lullaby!")
"Amid these woes who knows — who knows —
When it is time to die?"

She saw afar the flaming cloud,
She heard the cannon roar:
"The storm grows loud; the tempest proud
Beats heavily on our shore.
And what of the dawn?" her heart inquired;
(But her lips sang "Lullaby!")
"Amid such foes who knows — who knows —
When it is time to die?"